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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO. 25X1A

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Departure of Czech Air Force Pilots
to the USSR to Receive Jet Planes

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE
ACQUIRE

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF
INFO. 16 June 1951

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

DO NOT CIRCULATE

1. On 16 June 1951 about 140 officer-pilots and one general officer of the Czechoslovak Air Force left Kosice by special train for the USSR. They were not to be told their destination within the USSR until they reached the Czech-Soviet border. Although the men were given a military band send-off, the railroad station platforms were closed and not even the officers' families were allowed in the station. A majority of the pilots were Slovaks. All had completed training in jet planes in the USSR at the beginning of 1951 and had returned to Slovakia in March 1951.
2. The officers are to return to Czechoslovakia about mid-August with jet planes, which will take part in the large Czechoslovak Air Force Day celebration planned for 29 August on the anniversary of the Slovak national revolution.*

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Comment: It is presumed that these jet planes will be of the older types since Czech officers are not fully trusted by the USSR.

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